

ABSTRACT

A machine for sterilizing plastic and/or metal parts for closing bottles is installed on a bottling line, upstream of the screwing machine, and operates at the same rate as the screwing machine. Non-sterile closure parts are inserted in an input at one end of the machine and come out sterilized through an output at the other end of the machine. The parts travel within the machine between the machine input and the machine output along a helical travel path. The pieces can be driven along the helical path by friction against a rotating member, or by the effect of a driving fluid. The invention is useful for bottling processes.